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April 18, 2008

North Carolina Department of Environmental and Natural Resources
Solid Waste Permitting Branch
2090 U.S. Highway 70
Swannanoa, North Carolina 28778

Attention: Mr. Larry Frost

Reference: **CLOSURE PLAN**
Belews Creek Steam Station – Pine Hall Road Ash Landfill Closure
Industrial Landfill Permit No. 85-03
Duke Energy
Stokes County, North Carolina
S&ME Project No. 1356-07-017

Dear Mr. Frost:

The Pine Hall Road Ash Landfill Closure project is currently in the construction phase. Some changes to the approved Closure Plan, dated June 21, 2007, are proposed to simplify the construction process. This letter was written to document proposed changes to the Closure Plan, and to provide the Engineer of Record's approval for these changes, that include:

1. revising grades to provide cut/fill balances of the "Flat Area" subgrade;
2. revising grades to provide cut/fill balance of the "Closure Area" subgrade; and
3. using material stripped from the top and side slopes of the Closure Area as topsoil for the Closure Area system.

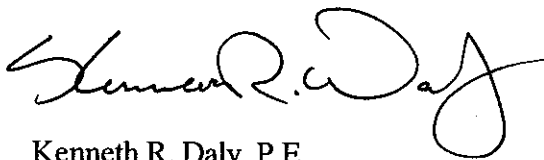
Grading in the Flat Area and Closure Area, as shown on the approved Closure Plan, would require a net amount of fill in each area to reach the proposed subgrade elevations. Cut/fill balances are proposed for the Closure Area and Flat Area to reduce grading activities and provide better tie-ins with existing contours. The proposed cut/fill balance in the Flat Area will be achieved by moving the access road on the northwest face of the Flat Area south by approximately 15 feet, and lowering the elevation of the entire Flat Area by approximately 1.25 feet. The proposed cut/fill balance in the Closure Area will be achieved by lowering the top deck elevations of the Closure Area. The slope and general geometry of access roads, ditches, side slopes, and top surface of the Flat Area and the Closure Area will remain unchanged. The Flat Area and the Closure Area ash footprints will not be changed. The proposed grading modifications will be documented by the record drawings to be provided with the construction certification report.

The approved Closure Plan specifies that material stripped from the side slopes of the Closure Area should be placed on top of the Closure Area underneath the geosynthetic cover system. In order to better utilize on-site resources, it is proposed that the top and side slopes of the Closure Area be stripped, and the stripped material used as vegetative cover as part of the geosynthetic cover system in the Closure Area and the soil cover system in the Flat Area. The thickness of the vegetative cover layer will remain unchanged.

By signing this letter, I am approving the proposed changes as summarized above. I anticipate your response to the changes as proposed. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

S&ME, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth R. Daly". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Kenneth R. Daly, P.E.
Engineer of Record

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack J. Amar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Jack J. Amar, P.E.
Senior Review